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Agenda item 3

ORGANIZATION OF THE WORK OF THE SESSION

Letter dated 20 April 1998 from the Permanent Representative of Algeria to the United Nations Office at Geneva addressed to the Chairman of the Commission on Human Rights

I have the honour to inform you that on Wednesday, 15 April 1998 at 5.50 p.m., on the premises of the Palais des Nations and at the very entrance to the meeting room of the Commission on Human Rights (room XVIII), I was approached by three individuals who accosted me in a violent manner and uttered insults, abuse and death threats directed at myself and at senior representatives of the Algerian State. At my request, they were apprehended by the United Nations Security service and identified.

One of them, Mr. Ammar KEBAILI, was accredited by the International Federation of Human Rights Leagues and was in possession, to my great astonishment, of an ultra-confidential communication that I had addressed on 10 December 1997 to Mr. Bacre N'DIAYE, Special Rapporteur, with a copy to Mrs. Mary Robinson, the High Commissioner for Human Rights.

A complaint was lodged by us with the Swiss Federal authorities.

I hereby request you to have this letter distributed as an official document of the fifty-fourth session of the Commission.

(Signed): Mohamed-Salah DEMBRI
Ambassador